

THE NEXT CONGRESS

ONE OF THE MOST MOMENTOUS SESSIONS IN THE COUNTRY'S HISTORY.

Will President Cleveland be Master of the Situation? The Tariff and Finance—No More "Force Bill"—Revising Silver Bases—Anti-Immigration—Amending Hawaii—Purging the Pension Rolls—Pure Food, Alimony, Etc.—A Careful Forecast of Work to be Done.

(Special Waiver for Correspondents)

The most momentous work that has confronted Congress since the war of the rebellion is now awaiting the action of the 53rd Congress, which opens its session on September 1st. President Cleveland has fully appreciated the gravity of the work to be done, and has called the Congress together in extra session, the 1st of September, instead of the 3rd, as was the custom in the past. The President's call is a clear indication of his confidence in the Congress, and of his belief that the Congress will be able to handle the work that is before it.

The importance of the session is due to the fact that it is the first time in thirty years that the Executive and the Legislature have met in the same session. The President's call is a clear indication of his confidence in the Congress, and of his belief that the Congress will be able to handle the work that is before it.

At the outset, however, there are prospects of a wide diversity of opinion between the Executive and the Legislature. The President's call is a clear indication of his confidence in the Congress, and of his belief that the Congress will be able to handle the work that is before it.

There is every evidence that one of two conditions will control the coming Congress. Either Mr. Cleveland will be able to carry out his policy, or else the self-willed leaders of Congress will be able to carry out their policy.

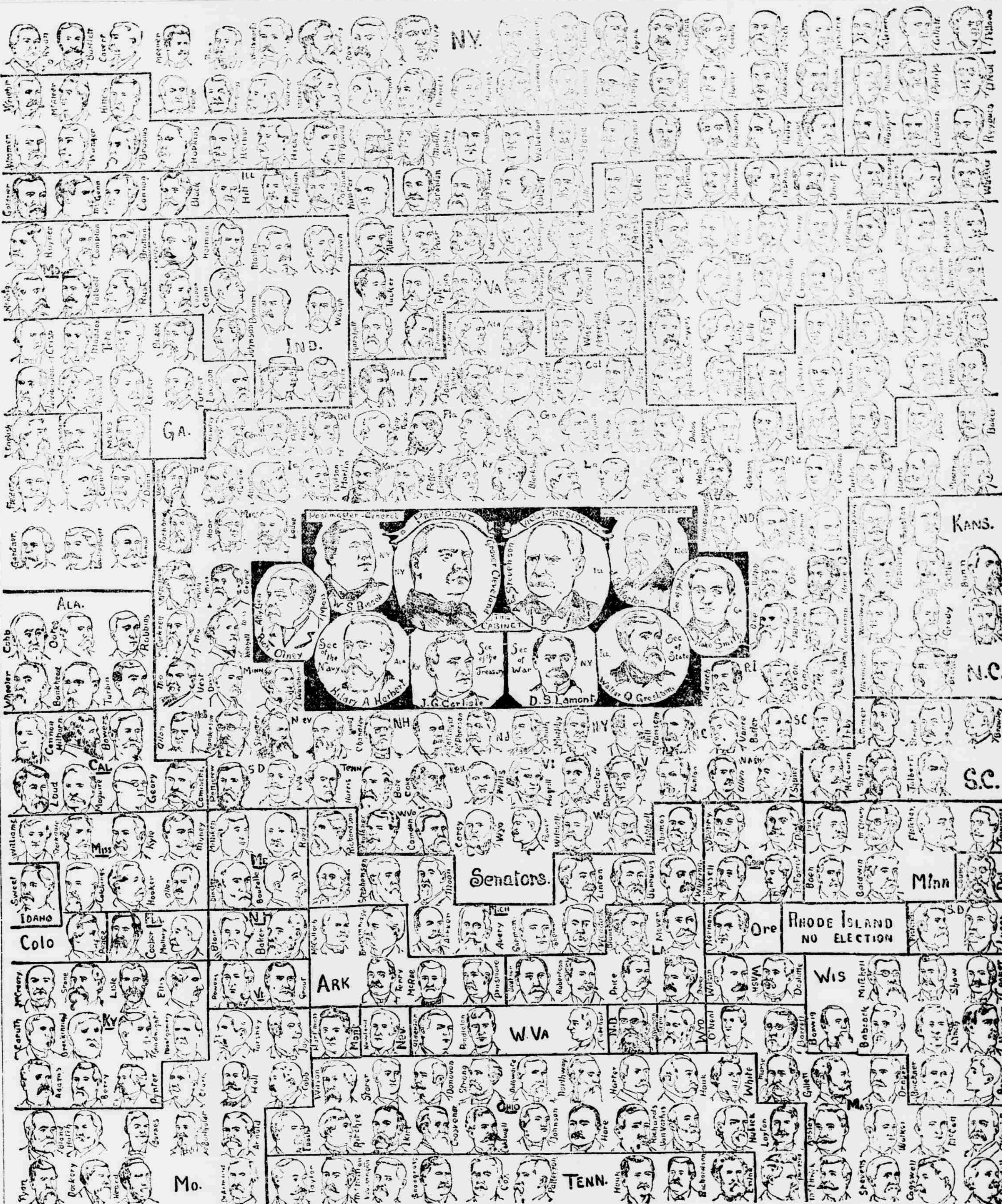
Mr. Cleveland's policy is to carry out his policy, and the self-willed leaders of Congress will be able to carry out their policy. The President's call is a clear indication of his confidence in the Congress, and of his belief that the Congress will be able to handle the work that is before it.

The session is so near at hand that it is easy to look forward and take a general view of the great measures to be brought before Congress. The President's call is a clear indication of his confidence in the Congress, and of his belief that the Congress will be able to handle the work that is before it.

The first work of Congress on its assembling in September will be to select its officers. Vice President Stevenson will preside over the Senate, by virtue of its adjournment last November. Speaker Crisp's term is at an end, but it is well understood that there will be no speaker's fight, usual on the reassembling of Congress, but that Mr. Crisp will again be honored with the office of Speaker.

The next work will be to appoint the committee of committees. Usually this takes a month, and is interrupted by the Christmas holidays, but as Mr. Cleveland has had the foresight to call the Congress in September, there will be no holiday in session, and the committees will be appointed at once.

That the session will be a most important one is a fact that is not open to question. The President's call is a clear indication of his confidence in the Congress, and of his belief that the Congress will be able to handle the work that is before it.



President, Vice President, Cabinet and Fifty-third Congress of the United States.

Senate and the House, as it is well known that the old Randall spirit is still there, and that many prominent Democrats have such a leaning toward protection that they will resist all efforts to change the McKinley act.

The financial struggle promises to be an exciting one. President Cleveland has set his heart on the repeal of the present Sherman silver act, by which the government buys 4,500,000 ounces of silver each month and issues it into silver dollars. These silver dollars cannot be circulated, and they remain in the treasury vaults a dead weight on the government and no use to the people. Thus the government is compelled to spend an enormous sum each month for silver, and yet the people of the country receive no added circulation. Mr. Cleveland charges up the present bad condition of the banks and of business to the existing Sherman act. He feels that if the act is repealed there will be no further hardship to be seen. It is by no means certain, however, that Mr. Cleveland will be able to secure a majority in both the House and the Senate for the repeal of this Sherman act. The free silver men are even split in both branches, and they even split a majority. They are, of course, opposed to any stoppage in the purchase of silver. They want the government to purchase not only 4,500,000 ounces per month, but all the silver mined in this country. The clash between the silver and the anti-silver men will be very bitter. Mr. Cleveland will be arrayed with the latter, and it will be an interesting spectacle to see whether the administration will be able to enforce its policy on this vital question and secure the repeal of the Sherman act, with its consequent restoration of ease and security throughout business circles.

Another very important question to come before Congress is that as to restoring State banks to their old privileges. Prior to the war all the paper money of the country was issued by State banks. But when the war came the government had to create some money, and it accordingly created the national banks. These latter banks were given

a monopoly of issuing paper money, in the form of national bank notes, and the State banks were restrained from issuing paper money by a 10 per cent tax on their circulation. This tax was practically prohibitory, for no State bank could pay its bills for the privilege of issuing \$1.00. The State bank men are now anxious to go back to the old system. They point out that the national banks have fulfilled their mission of having banks to carry on the war, and are no longer necessary. On the other hand the opponents of State banks raise the cry of "wildcat currency" and say that if the old system were restored there would be no uniformity in the paper money of the country. The State bank men have a very powerful following in the last Congress, they showed 54 votes in a small house. They have the advantage of an absolute endorsement of State banks in the national Democratic platform, which gave a positive promise that State banks should be restored.

There will be no "Force Bill" in the next Congress, as the so-called "Force Bill" has been largely repudiated when the Congress adjourned. When the last Congress adjourned Mr. Harrison had just completed his policy of annexing the islands, and he even sent to the Senate a formal treaty of annexation. But when the several Democratic leaders are anxious to put a stop to all alien ownership of large tracts. Bills for this purpose have been pending for several years, but they have been put off for one reason or another. Those who have them in charge, however, intend to push the measures before the next Congress.

Several foreign questions of extreme moment will come before the new Congress. The annexation of Hawaii is probably the most important. When the last Congress adjourned Mr. Harrison had just completed his policy of annexing the islands, and he even sent to the Senate a formal treaty of annexation. But when the several Democratic leaders are anxious to put a stop to all alien ownership of large tracts. Bills for this purpose have been pending for several years, but they have been put off for one reason or another. Those who have them in charge, however, intend to push the measures before the next Congress.

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